Appl. No. 10/667,251

Amendment dated December 20, 2004

Reply to Office action of November 18, 2004

Remarks/Arguments:

This Response is being submitted in response to the Office Action dated November 18, 2004. Claims 16-21 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 22-27 have been added.

Claims 1-15 and 22-27 are presented for examination.

Although no fee is believed to be due to maintain the application in good standing, Applicant's representative hereby authorizes the use of Deposit Account 03-0172 for any

payment necessary to maintain the application in good standing.

Restriction Requirement

Applicant elects with traverse to prosecute invention I, claims 1-15. Applicant contends that there would be no undue search burden to prosecute the claims as originally presented. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute inventions II and III, claims 16-21, in one or more related applications, such as a divisional application.

Conclusion

Entry of this amendment and allowance of claims 1-15 and 22-27 are respectfully requested. Applicants respectfully invite the Examiner to contact Applicant's representative at the telephone number listed below to discuss the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

December 20, 2004

Date

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